National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 26, 2010

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at a SpaceX

Reception on or about June 2-3, 2010

On or about June 2-3, 2010, SpaceX, will host a reception at the Kennedy Space Center, OSB Facility II at the Hilton Cocoa Beach, in Florida, at 12:00 p. m. This event is to celebrate the First Falcon 9 Launch.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 400 representatives of NASA, the aerospace industry, Congress and their staffers, SpaceX customers, trade associations, academia, and media. The cost of the reception will be approximately \$50.00 per person. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned reception is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The event will provide NASA employees with the opportunity to celebrate the First Falcon 9 launch and discuss the mission and other NASA programs with representatives of the communities participating in the reception.

Accordingly, NASA employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests. However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i), regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor. Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge, may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the reception for themselves and any accompanying guest.

Adam F. Greenstone